

**COMMISSION ON TEACHER CREDENTIALING**

1812 Ninth Street  
Sacramento, California 95814-7000  
(916)445-7254



96-9606

**DATE:** April 19, 1996

**TO:** All Individuals and Groups Interested in the Activities of the  
Commission on Teacher Credentialing

**FROM:** Sam Swofford, Ed. D.  
Executive Director

**SUBJECT:** Proposed Amendments of Sections 80043 and 80045 of Title 5,  
California Code of Regulations, Pertaining to Eminence  
Credentials

**Notice of Public Hearing is Hereby Given:**

In accordance with Commission policy, proposed Title 5 Regulations are being distributed prior to the public hearing. A copy of the proposed regulations is attached. The added text is underlined, while the ~~deleted~~ is lined-through. The public hearing is scheduled on:

June 6, 1996  
2:00  
Hilton Hotel  
2200 Harvard Street  
Sacramento, California

**Statement of Reasons**

Individuals who are eminent in their area of expertise could greatly help the students in California by sharing their skills and knowledge. The customary route for these individuals to obtain authorization to serve in the public schools would be to complete, at a minimum, a full year education program. This may be viewed by many as an unacceptable option, and deter these individuals from entering education. But, Education Code §44262 does allow for the issuance of an Eminence Credential, which may be more feasible for a number of these individuals. This document authorizes individuals prominent in either a commonly taught field or an area of service practiced in the public schools to function in that capacity in the recommending school district. This document has not been widely sought, and the Commission feels that it may, in part, be do to the requirements established within Title 5, §80043 and §80045.

The proposed changes to Title 5, §80043 and §80045, noted below, will allow qualified individuals to more easily obtain and renew Eminence Credentials. It is hoped that these changes will entice more prominent individuals into education.

*§80043: Statement of Employment and Verification of Qualifications*

Section 80043 is concerned with the verification of employment by the school district's that seek to establish the individual's eminence, the documentation of the individual's qualifications, and the notice distributed when the Commission considers applications for Eminence Credentials.

The proposed sub-section (a) defines an eminent individual. This will give the school districts and individuals a better perception of the qualities needed to be viewed as eminent. It will also add consistency to the reviewing process for the changing membership of the Commission. This sub-section also limited the authorization of the Eminence Credential to subjects and services commonly found in California public schools. This limitation is noted in Education Code §44262 and is restated here for clarity.

The proposed sub-section (b) notes the type of information submitted for the Commission's review. The proposed amendments would result in the following:

- add the recommendation from the governing board of a school district so the regulations are more consistent with Education Code §44262;
- add the fee(s) required for any individual requesting a document, as in §80045;
- add professional colleagues to those that may recommend and support the individual's qualifications to the proposed sub-section (A) because of their obvious familiarity with the person's abilities;
- add to the proposed sub-section (B), documentation of advanced degrees in the area of expertise to support the individual's case;
- add other wording to clarify that the information submitted should focus on the requested subject or service; and
- remove from the proposed sub-section (C), the limitation that the Commission provide notice of a pending eminence review only in the monthly agenda so other means of communication may also be used.

*§80045: Renewal of Eminence Credential*

Current §80045 describes the requirements for renewing an Eminence Credential. This includes a determination by the governing board that the individual "will best serve the children of the district", implying that no other credentialed educator is available, similar to requests for emergency

permits. It also includes the requirement that the employers evaluate these individuals as they do all probationary employees.

The proposed §80045 clarifies that the renewal is supported by the governing school board, as noted in Education Code §44262, rather than the superintendent. The support will be adopted at a public hearing so the governing board may receive information about the individual's competencies as an educator from other than district staff. It also eliminates the need by the district to submit a statement that they will rehire the individual, that the individual is the best one suited for the position, and the individual was evaluated on the same basis as a probationary educator. These requirements are unnecessary barriers since the board has already given their support to the renewal of this document. They also place the Eminence Credential on the same level as an emergency permit, which is issued when employers are having difficulty filling positions with appropriately credentialed educators. The request for the specific job description of the assignment is also eliminated. The Eminence Credential restricts the individual to the authorized area of expertise, previously approved by the Commission, so requesting the employer to give such precise information is not needed.

### **Documents Relied Upon in Making Determination to Change These Regulations**

The 1995 State of the State Address

Survey of the Eminence Credentials

### **Written Comment Period**

Any interested person, or his or her authorized representative, may submit written comments on the proposed actions. The written comment period closes at 5:00 p.m. on June 5, 1996.

Any written comments received 14 days prior to the public hearing will be reproduced by the Commission's staff for each Commissioner as a courtesy to the person submitting the comments and will be included in the written agenda prepared for and presented to the full Commission at the hearing.

### **Submission of Written Comments**

A response form is attached for your use when submitting written comments to the Commission. Please send it to the Commission at 1812 9th Street, Sacramento, CA 95814-7000, so it is received at least one day prior to the date of the public hearing.

**Public Hearing**

Oral comments on the proposed action will be taken at the public hearing. We would appreciate 14 days advance notice in order to schedule sufficient time on the agenda. Please contact Dr. Sam Swofford at (916)445-0184 regarding this.

Any person wishing to submit written comments at the public hearing may do so. It is requested, but not required, that persons submitting such comments provide twenty-five copies. All written statements submitted at the hearing will, however, be given full consideration regardless of the number of copies submitted.

**Modification of Proposed Actions**

If the Commission proposes to modify the actions hereby proposed, the modifications, other than nonsubstantial or solely grammatical modifications, will be made available for public comment for at least 15 days before they are adopted.

**Contact Person/Further Information**

Inquiries concerning the proposed action may be directed to Yvonne Novelli, telephone (916) 445-5865. Upon request, a copy of the express terms of the proposed action and a copy of the initial statement of reasons will be made available. Also available upon request is a copy of the proposed action written in plain English, at the eight grade level. In addition, all the information upon which this proposal is based is available for inspection and copying.

**Attachments**

## COMMISSION ON TEACHER CREDENTIALING

DIVISION VIII OF TITLE 5  
CALIFORNIA CODE OF REGULATIONSPROPOSED AMENDMENTS TO SECTIONS 80043 AND 80045  
PERTAINING TO EMINENCE CREDENTIALS**§ 80043. Statement of Employment and Verification of Qualifications.**

(a) When considering an application for an Eminence Credential, the Commission shall be guided by the following definition of an eminent individual: The eminent individual is recognized as such beyond the boundaries of his or her community, has demonstrably advanced his or her field and has been acknowledged by his or her peers beyond the norm for others in the specific endeavor. The eminence credential shall be issued in a field of endeavor commonly taught or service practiced in the public schools of California.

(b) Pursuant to Section 44262 of the Education Code, issuance of an Eminence Credential shall be based upon a recommendation from the governing board of the school district, a statement of employment, submission of the fee(s) established in Section 80487 and a verification of the applicant's eminence qualifications.

(a)(1) The Statement of Employment in the district shall include the proposed specific assignment of the credential applicant, and a certification of the intention of the district to employ the applicant if granted an Eminence Credential.

(b)(2) The verification of eminence qualifications of an applicant for an Eminence Credential shall include:

(1)(A) Recommendations, which may be from, but need not be limited to, the following: professional associations; former employers; professional colleagues; any other individuals or groups whose evaluations would support eminence; and

(2)(B) Documentation of achievement, which may include, but need not be limited to, the following: advanced degrees earned; distinguished employment, where pertinent; transcripts evidence of related study or experience; publications; professional achievement performance; and recognition attained for contributions to his or her field of endeavor of outstanding knowledge and skill and professional achievement.

(c)(3) The Commission shall, in its distributions of its monthly agenda, provide notice to the public of those individuals for whom it is considering issuing Eminence Credentials. Any association, group, or

individual may provide the Commission with a written statement regarding the qualifications of the an individual under consideration ~~by the Commission for an Eminence Credential.~~

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NOTE: Authority Cited: Section 44225, Education Code. Reference: Section 44260 ~~44262~~, Education Code.

**§ 80045. Renewal of Eminence Credential.**

~~In determining whether or not it~~ The Commission shall renew an Eminence Credential, ~~the Commission shall receive~~ upon receipt of an application for renewal with a written statement of support from the superintendent governing board of the school district adopted in a public meeting and submission of the fee(s) established in Section 80487. which shall include:

- ~~(a) A statement that the school district will rehire the applicant if the credential is renewed;~~
- ~~(b) A statement that the governing board of the school district has determined that the eminence applicant will best serve the children of the district; and~~
- ~~(c) The eminence applicant's probation evaluation report compiled in the usual manner in which the district obtains reports of its probationary employees' performance.~~

~~The request from the school district for a renewal of an Eminence Credential shall also contain the specific job description of the assignment that the Eminence Credential holder will fill.~~

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NOTE: Authority cited: Section 44225, Education Code. Reference: Section 44262, Education Code. ~~(Filed 11-2-82; effective thirtieth day thereafter; Register 82, No. 45).~~

STATE OF CALIFORNIA

PETE WILSON, Governor

**COMMISSION ON TEACHER CREDENTIALING**

1812 Ninth Street  
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(916) 445-0184  
FAX (916) 327-3166



Attn.: Sam Swofford, Ed. D.  
Executive Director

Title: **EMINENCE CREDENTIALS**  
Section Nos.: 80043 & 80045

**Response to the Attached Title 5 Regulations**

So that the Commission on Teacher Credentialing can more clearly estimate the general field response to the attached Title 5 regulations, please return this response form to the Commission office at the above address by 5 pm on June 5, 1996, in order that the material can be presented at the June 6, 1996, public hearing.

1. ☐ Yes, I agree with the proposed Title 5 regulations. Please count me in favor of these regulations.
2. ☐ No, I do not agree with the proposed Title 5 Regulations for the following reasons: (If additional space is needed, use the reverse side of this sheet.)
3. ☐ Personal opinion of the undersigned. and/or
4. ☐ Organizational opinion representing  
Name of Organization: \_\_\_\_\_  
(Circle One) School District, County Schools, College, University, Professional Organization,  
Other
5. ☐ I shall be at the public hearing, place my name on the list for making a presentation to the Commission.
6. ☐ No, I will not make a presentation to the Commission at the public hearing.

Signature: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Printed Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Title: \_\_\_\_\_ Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

Employer/Organization: \_\_\_\_\_

Mailing Address: \_\_\_\_\_

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